

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church
PO Box 158
Banner Elk, NC 28604

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BANNER ELK, NC 28604
PERMIT NO. 8



PHONE: (828) 898-5406 FAX: (828) 898-7615
WEB PAGE: www.bannerelkpresbyterian.org EMAIL: office@bannerelkpresbyterian.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

For the Newsletter to be received by the first day of each month, Session has set the **deadline** for all submissions to be **on or before the 15th** of each month (**via e-mail or diskette only**). We extend a sincere welcome to everyone to join us for worship and any events you see listed in the newsletter.



Press-byterian

Banner Elk Presbyterian Church

*“To Know Christ and to Make Christ Known”
Equipping Saints since 1893*

April 2017

CHURCH LEADERSHIP & STAFF
Moderator: Rev. Feild Russell
Clerk of Session: Susan Carter

Class 2017
Tony Fortune - Missions
Cathy Richmond - Preschool
McNair Tornow - Worship
Carolyn West - Fellowship & Nurture

Class 2018
Sara Brewer - Membership/Outreach
Jimmy Ennis - Building Grounds
Emily Garrett - Congregational Care

Class 2019
Bill Ferguson - Stewardship & Finance
Murry Haber - Personnel
Travis Henley - Educational Leadership
Nancy Owen - Membership/Outreach

Clerk of the Works - Larry Zimmer
Permanent Funds Ministry - Jim Swinkola
Treasurer: Dr. Ronald L. McGowan
Asst Treasurers: Allen Clark, Rob Clemmer, Jean Eells, Bruce Pendergast, Dorothy Pullease

Church Staff
Rev. Feild Russell, Pastor
Mobile: 757-846-1105
Email: pastor@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
Rev. Leslie Piper, Parish Associate
belibrarylady@gmail.com
Rev. Dr. Ed Donnell, Parish Associate
edd@aggienetwork.com
Rob Clemmer, Office Administrator
rob@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
Director of Music: Diane Rydell
diane_bepc@outlook.com
Admin. Assistant: Dedy Traver
dedy@bannerelkpresbyterian.org
Housekeeping: Margaret Trivette
BEPC Preschool: A.C. Marriott, Director
acmarriott@bannerelkpresbyterian.org

Office Telephone: 828-898-5406

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERIVCES
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship - traditional

From the Pastor...

Lent is a good time for confession, so it seems right that I confess: I thought the year 2017 would be a little less “busy” in the church, and was looking forward to a calmer and easier year. 2016 was full of planning and fund raising and mission causes and property development. I said to myself, “When we finish the parking lot and preschool playground, things will settle down a bit.”

You know the saying: “We plan, God laughs.” This winter has seen strong worship attendance and additional young families in the mix. What an unexpected change from just a few years ago, when many of us agreed that BEPC could be healthy and faithful as a congregation of mostly older adults and retirees. Attempts to draw a younger crowd with different worship time and style did not meet with success.

But as we look over the congregation now, there are a growing number of younger families with children and youth. What a blessing!!

We all know, though, that blessings come with responsibilities. It has been some time since we have had a core group of youth and children, and our programming for them is negligible. We have a pressing need to provide for the unique spiritual nourishment of this group.

To this end, the Session has created a task force to develop strategies for the longer term, while the Educational Leadership Team works on short-term solutions. Already a Confirmation Class for middle schoolers and a Sunday School class for young children are in the works for this year. The Task Force will consider what kind of structure, programming, staff, budget, etc. may be needed for the future, so that we can be more proactive than reactive.

It looks like 2017 will not be particularly calm or easy from a church professional’s perspective. The reasons for that, as you can see, are wonderful! I hope you will join me both in celebrating this new development, as well as considering how you might support the ways we will encourage the faith of the youngest in our midst.

The Easter promise of new life is taking an additional form this year for Banner Elk Presbyterian Church. To God be the glory!

- Feild

Opportunities To Learn And Grow

Faith Seekers' Class

About the Faith Seekers' Class: Explore various issues, using music, video and conversation.

Food: Coffee and snacks provided (usually)

Money: Receives an offering for good causes and needs

Time: 9:30 AM

In April, Faith Seekers will be studying the lectionary in preparation for worship

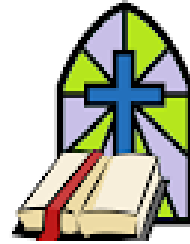
April 2: Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45; Psalm 130

April 9: Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14-27:66; Matthew 27:11-54; Psalm 31:9-16

April 16: Acts 10:34-43; Jeremiah 31:1-6; Colossians 3:1-4; Acts 10:34-43; John 20: 1-18; Matthew 28:1-10; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

April 23: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; 1Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31; Psalm 16

April 30: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35; Psalm 116;1-3, 10-17



The Daniel Plan



This is a group that deals with weight loss and health issues, particularly as we age. Each week we prepare a new food to serve in place of some of the foods that have led us in unhealthy directions. We discuss many health issues including exercise when we have aches and pains, supplements that work (or don't) and many other interesting aspects of staying healthy and well, in order to serve our Lord. The Daniel Plan meets in the Fellowship Hall Wednesdays at 3:30pm.

If you would like to join us, email Janet Speer at speerj@lmc.edu.

Parents of Preschoolers - POP

Join with other parents of preschoolers for supper, conversation and a study - "Reflections on Mark for Lent." We will meet April 2 and 9 from 5:30-7:15 pm in the fellowship hall. The meal and child care are provided so please let Ed Donnell know if you plan to attend (edd@aggienetwork.com). Please feed your children before arriving.



Spaghetti Supper Scheduled for April 29th



As most of you remember, BEPC puts on a spaghetti supper for the Lees-McRae students at the end of each semester. This semester the supper will take place on Friday, April 28th. So, be watching for sales on spaghetti sauce! We will need lots of wonderful desserts as well. There will be sign-up sheets in your bulletins in the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please call Carol at 898-9341. Thanks!

- Carol Larson

Red Cross Blood Drive

BEPC sponsors the American Red Cross Blood Drives several times a year. The next one will be held Friday April 7th from 2:00-6:30pm in the King Fellowship Hall. Sponsoring a blood drive is an important community responsibility and helps many people in this community. Please mark your calendars and, if you are able, please help the Red Cross reach their goal! If you want to make an Appointment, you can go to www.redcrossblood.org and put in sponsor code: Lees-McRae or call Nurse Carl at 898-8862.



Session Recap

- **Approved** baptisms of Amy Jones, son Jackson and daughter Ellie, and received Amy into membership by Profession of Faith with baptism (Mike is the husband and father); received Susan and Bob Blalock into membership by Reaffirmation of Faith.
- **Formed** a Task Force to study and recommend a plan to meet the growing needs of the growing number of youth and children in the church; Sara Brewer, Nancy Owen, Bill Ferguson, Susan Carter, Lyndsay Ennis, and Donna Dicks were named to this Task Force.
- **Heard** Mission Committee decisions to distribute part of the 2016 surplus to Yellow Mountain Enterprises (\$2500), Feeding Avery Families (\$2500), Pastor's Discretionary Fund (\$2000), Ramp replacement through Volunteer Avery (\$250), and Oasis (\$200). Yellow Mountain Thrift Store and FAF must vacate facilities soon and relocate.
- **Informed** of plan for a Confirmation Class starting later this year for middle school age youth, and **discussed** pressing needs to redevelop Sunday School opportunities for children.
- **Celebrated** progress reports on the parking lot and preschool playground projects.
- **Received** strong financial reports from the Treasurer, Permanent Fund Ministry, and Stewardship and Finance Committee.
- **Allocated** additional 2016 surplus monies to the Park and Play project (\$20,000), special Christmas Eve worship musicians (\$1000), and an extra bench for the preschool playground (\$853).
- **Accepted**, with regret, the resignation of Elder Denise Powell from Session, due to stated overextension of commitments and responsibilities in other areas of her life.
- **Elected** Tony Fortune as Chair and Nancy Owen as additional Elder to fill out the 2017 Nominating Committee, and instructed them to begin the process of filling the vacancy created by recent resignation.



Meeting Spaces



For those committees or individuals who wish to use the church facilities for meetings, we are happy to accommodate you! It is very helpful, especially as summer approaches, if you will let the church office know the date and time you will be meeting. This way we can avoid two or three committees trying to meet in the same room at the same time! We have plenty of space and we will reserve meeting space on a "First Come, First Serve Basis"! Thank you so much for your help with this.



Park & Play Funding Update

Park & Play Pledges for 2016 – To date we have collected 98% of the 2016 Park & Play pledges, and are optimistic that we will receive the remaining \$6,725.00 of this commitment.

Park & Play Pledges for 2017 – To date we have received \$6700.00 of the \$48,325.00 that was pledged for 2017.

Fulfilled 2016 commitments and early giving of 2017 pledges will enable us to borrow less, thus reducing our debt.

If you have any questions concerning your pledged Park & Play commitment, please contact Dedy Traver at 828-898-8146.

Financial Records March 2017

March 5	\$ 5,418.00
March 12:	\$ 6,913.00
March 19:	\$ 5,650.00
March 26:	<u>\$ 5,615.00</u>
Total	\$23,597.00

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer Shawl Knitters Welcome Spring

Laughter echoed throughout the church as a happy group of knitters/crocheters had their first spring meeting to welcome each other and a new season. They shared news and stories and concerns as they busily worked to refurbish their supply of shawls after so many have been distributed during the winter months. The group decided that in addition to the prayer shawls they make for anyone "who needs a hug," they will begin also making lap blankets for cancer patients going through chemo at the oncology clinic in Boone. Martha Garris and Chris Zimmer will be our contacts with that program. Everyone is invited to join this group which meets the first and third Tuesdays each month. They create "free-style" shawls in many sizes and beautiful colors. The lap blankets can be made of any design but should be approximately 42 X 54 inches to accommodate the needs of those receiving treatment. If there are church members and friends who would like to knit at home, then contribute shawls or lap blankets, you are welcome to be a knit-at-home partner to the group. Cathy Richmond, 898-9019, is the contact for this ministry.



Park & Play Project Update

With the onset of spring weather, construction will soon resume on the new parking lot. The lights have arrived and will be installed soon. Gardens of the Blue Ridge will begin the extensive landscape work as soon as Gilliam Construction completes the final grading. Asphalt will be laid when the contractors are confident that the site is stable and fully compacted. We are very pleased with the work to date and are excited about completing the project in coming weeks. In the meantime, it is safe to park in the lot when the orange cones are not blocking the entrances.

One look at the playground and you'll note that progress is being made very quickly now! Special thanks to Joel Owen and Steve Gilliam for substantial contributions made to this project to prepare the site. Play spaces are being constructed and may be finished by the time many receive this newsletter; fencing, signs, landscaping and a few other items will be put in place after that work is complete.



Holy Week

April 13 Maundy Thursday Worship Feeds Soul and Body

The room is prepared. Others have brought the food. Our Lord invites you to join him and other followers to celebrate the service He gave us at the Last Supper and celebrate the ultimate service He gave on the cross. The evening's worship will include a meal, framed within the meal-worship style of our ancestors and brought into our Christian faith. Worshippers will participate as table families in the prayers, engage in a hand washing, recall the significance of the sacrament, and celebrate the sacrament itself.



Maundy, from the Latin for command, defines our worship so as to remind us of the "new commandment" Christ gave the disciples in John 13 to serve one another as He served us. There will be special music, a meditation in music and art, and table hosts to assist our worship. Gathered in the fellowship hall, worshipers will participate in a family style Mediterranean meal, with a menu designed to remind us of the time and locations of Jesus' earthly life. This is not a covered-dish meal; food will be provided. A preschool nursery will also be available. Because this is a special event meal, we would appreciate your letting us know if you will be attending. There is a sign-up sheet in the reception area. This begins at 6:00pm.

- Ed Donnell

Surely You Don't Mean Me, Lord!?



On Good Friday, April 14th at 7:00pm the Worship Arts Ministry Team, along with the Adult Choir under the direction of Diane Rydell, will present the drama, *Surely You Don't Mean Me, Lord!?* It is easy to believe that we are not complicit in the death of Jesus. After all we weren't even there! But modern men and women, even good people, can lose their way when confronted with the challenges of life. Small scenarios, surrounded with beautiful music, will help lead us into the prayer and reflection needed to understand the importance of dark days of the crucifixion. *Surely You Don't Mean Me, Lord* will enrich your worship and prepare you for the glory of Easter.

- Janet Speer

Holy Week Schedule

- April 13 - Maundy Thursday Seder 6:00pm - A Middle Eastern dinner and Seder Service. Please RSVP by calling the church office at 898-5406.
- April 14 - Good Friday 7:00pm Good Friday drama, "*Surely You Don't Mean Me, Lord!?*", presented by the Worship Arts Ministry Team and the Adult Choir in the sanctuary
- April 16 Easter – Bring flowers today to the 11 o'clock service to put on the cross on the lawn
6:30am Sunrise Service at Children's Hope Alliance - Reservoir Hill, followed by breakfast
11:00am Easter Sunday Service



Flowers in Holy Spaces: A Work in Three



The art of flower arranging is considered a form of prayer and meditation in many cultures. Learn some of the rich history of this art in this hands-on workshop, as well as its purposes, goals, and basic principles. No experience is necessary to participate in this workshop; beginners and experienced arrangers are all welcome.

Practice design elements such as working in threes, the mechanics of hidden shapes, and how to best use containers, tools, and materials – and create your own arrangement to take with you. Bring your favorite floral cutting implement, if you have one.

Karen Lumpkin is a retired English teacher who has studied and practiced flower arranging for well over 30 years. She specializes in liturgical floral arranging.

This will be Saturday April 29th from 10am to 3pm at the Valle Crucis Conference Center. The cost is \$50 which covers lunch, snacks, program and materials. You can download a registration form at www.vcconferences.org or call 828-963-4453. You may also call Dedy Traver at 828-898-5406.

Dance Event for Individuals with Disabilities

“Your Special Night” is dance for individuals with disabilities. It is important to show acceptance to everyone. This event is a way of celebrating who you are and having a night of fun. The goal is to make the guest feel like a STAR. Last year the event was a tremendous success. The community came together to



volunteer for the dance. The local BE Fire Department came to show off their dance moves. This year the event will be held on April 29th, 2017 at 6:30-10:30 pm YMCA Chapman Center. Please check out the official website: <http://www.yourspecialnightdance.com/home.html> . Dress and Suit donations can be delivered to Yellow Mountain Thrift Store. **Food donations** can be dropped off on April 29th, 2017 between 11:00am - 12:30pm. Monetary donations are graciously appreciated. There are many **opportunities for volunteers**. Please email Jennifer Owen at jenniferowen@yourspecialnightdance.com or call (828) 387-0101 for information.

Jennifer Owen is one of our BEPC Preschool teachers and is very active with this event.



BEPC Preschool

In the month of March our preschool students and teachers have been very busy: we have discussed our favorite authors, musicians, artists and explored different ways of creating art. We enjoyed a week filled with Dr. Seuss books and festivities along with another week of Eric Carle books and activities. We had fun dressing up like our favorite Dr. Seuss character and showed off our silliest socks and craziest hats. We used our best imagination skills trying to catch a leprechaun over St. Patrick's Day. Unfortunately, the leprechaun got away again this year but he left a friendly note along with some treats for the students. If you have a moment and would like to stop by our own “Preschool Arts Museum”, it will be displayed in the classroom on the 2nd floor in the church. You will find some of our favorite pieces of art which will be displayed for the next two weeks.

Early registration for fall 2017 will start April 1st. This is exclusive for our currently enrolled preschool families and Banner Elk Presbyterian Church members. Open registration will begin May 1st. You can now register for summer camp here at BEPC preschool. It will run for 7 weeks beginning June 12th Monday- Friday, 9am-1pm, \$95.00/week, or \$145.00/week for two siblings. Sign-up is weekly so families can choose which week(s) work best for their schedule. Dates, themes and more information can be found on the BEPC website under Summer Camp tab online.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, or helping with scholarships during the summer for our children to attend our extraordinary program, please contact me. We anticipate a great summer, especially being able to play outside on our new playground. We look forward to continued growth of our preschool program this fall. You can find more information, registration forms and summer camp forms on our preschool website: bannerelkpresbyterian.org/preschool. Don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone with any questions, concerns: acmarriott@bannerelkpresbyterian.org or 828-897-1467. Thank you for your continuous support.

- AC Marriott



LMC Nursing School and Haiti



Every so often BEPC is able to support Lees-McRae College, student achievement, and global mission work. *Thelma is one of our regular CLUTCH (college ministry) participants.*

My name is Thelma Barraza and I'm a student at Lees-McRae College. I will be going to Haiti in May. I'd like to thank you very much for supporting my continuing education and mission trip. I am so passionate about serving the community and now I get the chance to step outside of local boundaries!

An important guiding principle of the May School of Nursing and Health Sciences is global and community engagement. We believe that nursing care is provided in highly diverse environments and that we must be accessible to local, regional, national, and global communities. As nurses, we are committed to the principles of health promotion and maintenance to ensure that those who we engage will have the information and tools necessary to make informed decisions about their healthcare. With the Haiti trip, graduating BSN students will engage in providing care and patient education in diverse environments through service-learning and high-impact, collaborative clinical experiences. I want to thank you all again for this opportunity. God bless!

Thelma Barraza

Conversation with Dany Ivan Gonzalez Lopez

(Dany is from our partner church, Arca de Noé, and is one of the recipients of scholarship money through our presbytery's Building HOPE mission campaign)

I am Dany Gonzalez; I am 18 years old. I will begin my studies this Saturday, Feb. 4, at Universidad Mariano Galvez. I will attend on weekends, so I can work during the week. I will be studying Business Administration, which will take three years (on weekends) to complete. Then I will specialize in industrial engineering; that will take 6 more years of weekend studies. My older brother Selvin also attended University.

I prayed for this opportunity to help me, the community and the church. Some of the scholarship recipients in our church (Arca de Noe) are on the “Distrito” (Youth governing organization). I help at our church when I can and when they need me. Thank you so very much; this is a blessing for me. God is with us in this. I pray that God goes with you in all of this project. I love you too much!

Dany Gonzalez



Thanks from Habitat Volunteers

Each year during their spring break, numbers of college-age volunteers come to help our Avery Habitat with building projects. Each spring we help provide meals for these hard workers. Our church sent a delicious meal to almost 30 students from New Jersey and Pennsylvania who enjoyed taking a break in the Gilmer Center and visiting with Ruth and Claire who transported the picnic-style meal. They send a big THANKS to all who helped provide their lunch.



You are cordially invited to the
Spring Open House
in celebration of Appalachian Heritage Week and in
honor of community partnerships and support from
Lees-McRae College Employees
Monday, April 3
1:00-5:00 p.m.
Stephenson Center for Appalachia



Any questions, please contact Jennie Harpold, director of the NOSW at Lees-McRae College, at 828.898.8905 or harpoldj@lmc.edu.

Missions

Yellow Mountain Enterprises Forced to Move Thrift Store

The Avery County Board of Commissioners voted last month to purchase the Johnson building, which is located beside the courthouse, in order to provide more parking for courthouse employees. Yellow Mountain Enterprises, a vocational program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, has operated a thrift store at that location for the past six years. Their clients enjoy working in a public store where they can meet people while they are evaluating, sorting and hanging the donations of clothes and household goods.

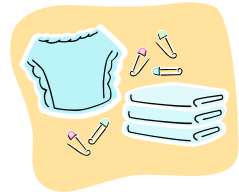


Yellow Mountain Enterprises is a child of this church. The program began its operation serving adults in our church basement. Two of the organization's early leaders were Barrett and Dudley Gilmer, long-term members of this church. It is currently led by David L. Tate, Executive Director and a life-long member of this church. Yellow Mountain Enterprises provides vocational, residential, social and recreational services to their clients who are all residents of Avery County. Providing decent work for their clients to be able to earn a paycheck is a wonderfully normalizing service. This service also enables the families of these adults to have greater freedom from the responsibility of caring for their family member. In addition to their thrift store, one of their enterprises is Yellow Mountain Trophies and Tees. This enterprise makes the name tags which we provide to all our members.

Yellow Mountain Enterprises has been in the Missions Committee budget for years, helping to support this worthy program. The Missions Committee recently met and voted to allocate additional money to this organization to assist in their efforts to raise money to build their own thrift store. They have been given the empty lot behind their offices in Newland that will be perfect for a new store. The larger size of the new store will enable them to better carry furniture. Mr. Tate expects their revenue in the new location to triple with the expansion and for the clients to be able to work even more hours in the new store.

"I would like to thank Banner Elk Presbyterian Church for its generous help for our clients over many years, but especially for this new donation toward our new thrift store," stated David Tate. "We have a long way to go in our fundraising before we begin to build this new store, but I have faith that we can do it. There are so many generous people who love our clients and know the value work has in their lives. God bless you all."

Time for a Change



During the past year you, the congregation of BEPC, made it possible to purchase approximately \$3,000 worth of diapers and formula for RAM to distribute to those in need. If you had not given specifically to the "It's Time for a Change" program, we would not have been able to provide as much as we did. Through Missions, \$1,500 is budgeted but as you can see, this does not meet the need. If we do not provide formula and diapers to babies in need, then their diapers will not be changed as often as needed and the formula will be watered down. Unless you have purchased either of these items recently, you would have difficulty believing how expensive they are. Due to this great expense, it is understandable why these parents have to resort to unsafe methods. Again, we ask if you have a special place in your heart for these babies, who through no fault of their own are in this situation, please consider a special donation to "It's Time for a Change". Please indicate this on your check to BEPC and may God bless your kindness.

- Carolyn Jones

One Great Hour of Sharing



Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing, to share God's love with those in need. Your generous gifts assist those affected by natural disasters, provide food for the hungry and assist to help empower the poor and oppressed. Specifically, gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering support the following: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People. This collection will be received on Easter Sunday, April 16th. Contributions may be made in either the designated envelopes provided, or by writing a check to BEPC with a notation for "One Great Hour of Sharing".

New Members

Robert and Susan Blalock



March was made for people with basketball in their blood, and new church member Bob Blalock, a retired basketball coach, must have jumped up and down as much as any of us during yet another highly charged basketball season. Not surprisingly, sports, and particularly golf and App State, head his list of special interests. He and wife Susan moved here from Statesville almost two years ago, and thanks to friends and neighbors, have made Banner Elk Presbyterian their church home. They are the parents of grown twin daughters and a son. Susan has wasted no time in becoming an eager volunteer, putting in time at the church and the Historic School's Book Exchange. She likes to knit, walk the dog, and like Bob, enjoys yard work!

- Ann Swinkola



Comfort Makers

April Quilt Dedicated to Tony and Claire Fortune



The Fortunes had a good time responding to the request to "tell us a little about things you've done at BEPC." Since they moved here in 1972, they've both taught Sunday School, been Youth Leaders and Elders. And as Tony laughs, "We've served on just about every committee - except finance! Nobody in their right mind would ask either of us to work with money!"



Some years ago, Tony helped begin the men's lunch/friendship group that still enjoys fellowship each Thursday. Claire remembers adamantly insisting at one time that a regular newsletter be continued even though interest in this was dwindling. She and others worked hard to help keep this going and now it is an essential communications focus for keeping members and friends updated. Some people think their best contribution to our church was instigating the Christmas Eve candlelight service. When they moved here in December, they were disappointed there was no Christmas Eve service as they'd had in their former church...so by the next year, there was a small candlelight service led by the Youth Group. It was received enthusiastically, and Claire remarked how much pleasure it was this past year to read that over 400 people attended our two Christmas Eve services. Tony and Claire both value the strength of our denomination - PC(USA) - especially our denomination's inclusiveness and connection to thousands of other Presbyterians. Through volunteer work over a period of years, they've seen Presbyterian Missions and Disaster Assistance in action and are proud that we are part of so many helping ministries. They feel very honored by the dedication of this month's lovely comforter.

- Janet Speer

Worship Space Additions



Have you noticed some of the new seasonal parments that are being used in the sanctuary? Martha Burns has been using her creative talents to make hangings and communion table covers in the liturgical colors. You also may have noticed some new table covers in the Narthexes which were also made by Martha. She has spent many hours measuring, cutting, and sewing these beautiful cloths. Thank you so much, Martha, for these wonderful additions to our worship space!



April 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<i>1</i> 7:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Banner Elk Caf�
<i>2</i> COMMUNION 9:30am SS Classes 11 am Worship 2mp Nathan Walker Memorial Service	<i>3</i> 9am BE Preschool	<i>4</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 3pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	<i>5</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 10am Comfort Makers 3:30pm Daniel Plan 4:30pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	<i>6</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 10:30am Pr-K Chapel 11:15 am ROMEO's Men's Lunch Group	<i>7</i> Office Closed	<i>8</i> 7:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Banner Elk Caf� 11am Ed Huff Memorial Service
<i>9</i> Palm Sunday 9:30am SS Classes 11 am Worship	<i>10</i> 9am BE Preschool 7PM Walking with Shadows Support Group	<i>11</i> 9am BEPC Preschool	<i>12</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 10am Comfort Makers 12:30pm JULIETS 3:30pm Daniel Plan 4:30pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	<i>13</i> Maundy Thursday 9am BEPC Preschool 10:30am Pr-K Chapel 11:15 am ROMEO's Men's Lunch Group 6:00pm Sedar Supper	<i>14</i> Office Closed 7pm Good Friday Service	<i>15</i> 7:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Banner Elk Caf�
<i>16</i> EASTER DAY 6:30am Sunrise Service and breakfast 9:30am SS Classes 11 am Worship	<i>17</i> Easter Monday OFFICE CLOSED	<i>18</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 3pm Prayer Shawl Ministry	<i>19</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 10am Comfort Makers 3:30pm Daniel Plan 4:30pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	<i>20</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 10:30am Pr-K Chapel 11:15 am ROMEO's Men's Lunch Group 7pm - Session	<i>21</i> Office Closed	<i>22</i> 7:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Banner Elk Caf�
<i>23</i> 9:30am SS Classes 11 am Worship	<i>24</i> 9am BE Preschool	<i>25</i> 9am BEPC Preschool	<i>26</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 10am Comfort Makers 3:30pm Daniel Plan 4:30pm Handbells 7:15pm Choir	<i>27</i> 9am BEPC Preschool 10:30am Pr-K Chapel 11:15 am ROMEO's Men's Lunch Group	<i>28</i> Office Closed	<i>29</i> 7:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Banner Elk Caf�
<i>30</i> 9:30am SS Classes 11 am Worship						



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April Birthdays

- 1 Rad Moeller
- 2 Jane Stephenson
- 3 Betty Scipione
- 3 Cody Shook
- 3 Deka Tate
- 5 Matthew Wimberly
- 5 David Tate
- 11 Carolyn Jones
- 12 Fiona Causby
- 12 Jerry Olsen
- 13 Mark Polderman
- 15 Bud Hahn
- 17 Jesse Vergara
- 18 Harold Durham
- 20 Nancy Doshier
- 22 Wendy Moeller
- 23 Davis Taylor
- 23 Pat Samples
- 23 Larry Weed
- 24 Larry Kennedy
- 29 Katy Fletcher
- 29 Sallie Prince
- 30 Donna Dicks
- 30 Martha Key

The 2017 *Wills Emphasis Sunday* will be June 11! Mark your calendar today and be alert for more information in the near future.



Church Happenings

JULIETS

The Juliets lunch group will be welcoming Spring on Wednesday, April 12 at Nicks Restaurant at Tynecastle. The time is 12:30pm. Hope to see you there for great food and fellowship. There is a sign-up at the church or call Marge Bailey (387-4628)



March 15, 2017



To BEPC,
Thanks to all my friends at Banner Elk Presbyterian Church. I feel your love and prayers. I am doing much better. Hope to see you all soon.

Love, Libby McGowan

BEPC --- Where love abounds...
Grateful thanks from the family of George Anderson to the members of BEPC, a church overflowing with love and support. Over the many months of George's illness, he was always reassured that we had our church family to support us as was evident in the constant visits, calls, emails, texts, cards, food sources, and general feeling of abundant love. Although the days were often long and difficult, the knowledge that there was a world of support surrounding our family helped to make the time more tolerable. George's goal was to be "home" and he finally achieved it during the last week of his life. He knew our church home would be welcoming his family and friends during his memorial service. We thank everyone for their outpouring of support in order to make his farewell a tribute to a life well lived. On February 26, 2017, George finally was granted his wish to be truly "airborne" once again.

Luana Anderson



Greeting Cards Available!

The Worship Arts Ministry is offering a new set of greeting cards. Each card has a beautiful piece of artistry on the front, With information on the artist and the church, and a scripture verse on the back. These will be on sale for \$10 for a package of 10. This is only to recoup expenses for the publication. The cards are now available in the church office.



Freezer Campaign



Are you cooking for one? Do you need a quick meal? We want to encourage our congregation to use the soups and items found in our freezer. We have plenty to take to shut-ins and we'll have to throw them out if not used. There are some lovely soups you can pull out for a cold day! The freezer is in the utility room in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to take breads, etc. as well.